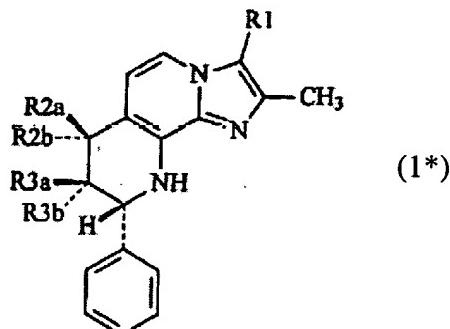


CLAIMS:

1. A compound of formula 1*



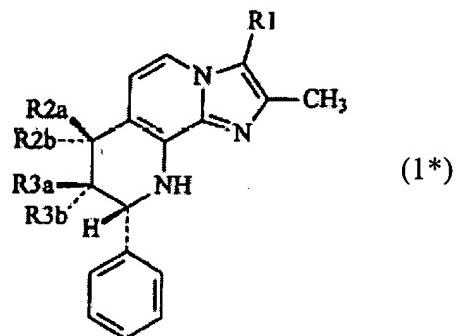
wherein R1 is CH₃;

each of R2a and R3b is H; and

each of R2b and R3a is a member selected from the group consisting of OH, OCH₃, OCH(CH₃)₂, OCH₂CH₂CH₃, and OCH₂CH₂CH₂OCH₃;
with the provisos that both R2b and R3a are not concurrently OH, and that, when neither is OH, both are the same.

2. The compound of claim 1 wherein R2b is OH, and R3a is OCH₃.
3. The compound of claim 1 wherein R2b is OH, and R3a is OCH₂CH₃.
4. The compound of claim 1 wherein R2b is OH, and R3a is OCH(CH₃)₂.
5. The compound of claim 1 wherein R2b is OH, and R3a is OCH₂CH₂CH₃.
6. The compound of claim 1 wherein R2b is OH, and R3a is OCH₂CH₂CH₂OCH₃.
7. The compound of claim 1 wherein R3a is OH, and R2b is OCH₃.
8. The compound of claim 1 wherein R3a is OH, and R2b is OCH₂CH₃.
9. The compound of claim 1 wherein R3a is OH, and R2b is OCH(CH₃)₂.

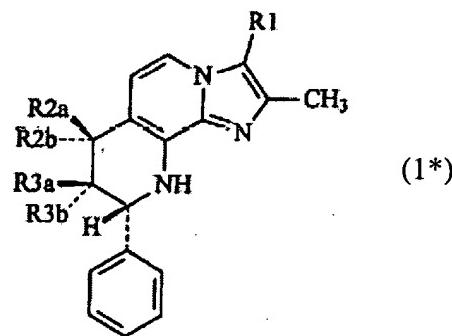
10. The compound of claim 1 wherein R3a is OH, and R2b is OCH₂CH₂CH₃.
11. The compound of claim 1 wherein R3a is OH, and R2b is OCH₂CH₂CH₂OCH₃.
12. The compound of claim 1 wherein R2b and R3a is OCH₃.
13. The compound of claim 1 wherein R2b and R3a is OCH₂CH₃.
14. The compound of claim 1 wherein R2b and R3a is OCH(CH₃)₂.
15. The compound of claim 1 wherein R2b and R3a is OCH₂CH₂CH₃.
16. The compound of claim 1 wherein R2b and R3a is OCH₂CH₂CH₂OCH₃.
17. A compound of claim 1 which is in the form of a pharmaceutically acceptable salt.
18. A compound of formula 1*



wherein R1 is CH₂OH;
 each of R2a and R3b is H; and
 each of R2b and R3a is a member selected from the group consisting of OH, OCH₃, OCH(CH₃)₂, OCH₂CH₂CH₃, and OCH₂CH₂CH₂OCH₃;
 with the provisos that both R2b and R3a are not concurrently OH, and that, when neither is OH, both are the same.

19. The compound of claim 18 wherein R2b is OH, and R3a is OCH₃.

20. The compound of claim 18 wherein R2b is OH, and R3a is OCH₂CH₃.
21. The compound of claim 18 wherein R2b is OH, and R3a is OCH(CH₃)₂.
22. The compound of claim 18 wherein R2b is OH, and R3a is OCH₂CH₂CH₃.
23. The compound of claim 18 wherein R2b is OH, and R3a is OCH₂CH₂CH₂OCH₃.
24. The compound of claim 18 wherein R3a is OH, and R2b is OCH₃.
25. The compound of claim 18 wherein R3a is OH, and R2b is OCH₂CH₃.
26. The compound of claim 18 wherein R3a is OH, and R2b is OCH(CH₃)₂.
27. The compound of claim 18 wherein R3a is OH, and R2b is OCH₂CH₂CH₃.
28. The compound of claim 18 wherein R3a is OH, and R2b is OCH₂CH₂CH₂OCH₃.
29. The compound of claim 18 wherein R2b and R3a is OCH₃.
30. The compound of claim 18 wherein R2b and R3a is OCH₂CH₃.
31. The compound of claim 18 wherein R2b and R3a is OCH(CH₃)₂.
32. The compound of claim 18 wherein R2b and R3a is OCH₂CH₂CH₃.
33. The compound of claim 18 wherein R2b and R3a is OCH₂CH₂CH₂OCH₃.
34. A compound of claim 18 which is in the form of a pharmaceutically acceptable salt.
35. A compound of formula 1*



wherein R1 is CH₃;

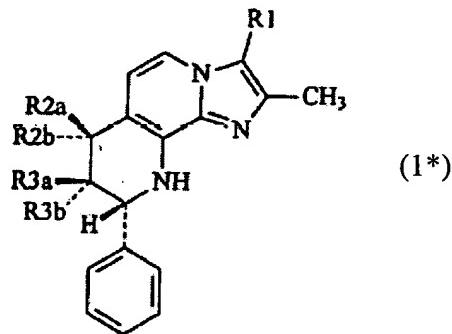
each of R2b and R3b is H; and

each of R2a and R3a is a member selected from the group consisting of OH, OCH₃, OCH(CH₃)₂, OCH₂CH₂CH₃, and OCH₂CH₂CH₂OCH₃;

with the provisos that both R2a and R3a are not concurrently OH, and that, when neither is OH, both are the same.

36. The compound of claim 35 wherein R2b is OH, and R3a is OCH₃.
37. The compound of claim 35 wherein R2b is OH, and R3a is OCH₂CH₃.
38. The compound of claim 35 wherein R2b is OH, and R3a is OCH(CH₃)₂.
39. The compound of claim 35 wherein R2b is OH, and R3a is OCH₂CH₂CH₃.
40. The compound of claim 35 wherein R2b is OH, and R3a is OCH₂CH₂CH₂OCH₃.
41. The compound of claim 35 wherein R3a is OH, and R2b is OCH₃.
42. The compound of claim 35 wherein R3a is OH, and R2b is OCH₂CH₃.
43. The compound of claim 35 wherein R3a is OH, and R2b is OCH(CH₃)₂.
44. The compound of claim 35 wherein R3a is OH, and R2b is OCH₂CH₂CH₃.
45. The compound of claim 35 wherein R3a is OH, and R2b is OCH₂CH₂CH₂OCH₃.
46. The compound of claim 35 wherein R2b and R3a is OCH₃.
47. The compound of claim 35 wherein R2b and R3a is OCH₂CH₃.
48. The compound of claim 35 wherein R2b and R3a is OCH(CH₃)₂.
49. The compound of claim 35 wherein R2b and R3a is OCH₂CH₂CH₃.
50. The compound of claim 35 wherein R2b and R3a is OCH₂CH₂CH₂OCH₃.
51. A compound of claim 35 which is in the form of a pharmaceutically acceptable salt.

52. A compound of formula 1*



wherein R1 is CH₂OH;

each of R2b and R3b is H; and

each of R2a and R3a is a member selected from the group consisting of OH, OCH₃,

OCH(CH₃)₂, OCH₂CH₂CH₃, and OCH₂CH₂CH₂OCH₃;

with the provisos that both R2a and R3a are not concurrently OH, and that, when neither is OH, both are the same.

53. The compound of claim 52 wherein R2b is OH, and R3a is OCH₃.
54. The compound of claim 52 wherein R2b is OH, and R3a is OCH₂CH₃.
55. The compound of claim 52 wherein R2b is OH, and R3a is OCH(CH₃)₂.
56. The compound of claim 52 wherein R2b is OH, and R3a is OCH₂CH₂CH₃.
57. The compound of claim 52 wherein R2b is OH, and R3a is OCH₂CH₂CH₂OCH₃.
58. The compound of claim 52 wherein R3a is OH, and R2b is OCH₃.
59. The compound of claim 52 wherein R3a is OH, and R2b is OCH₂CH₃.
60. The compound of claim 52 wherein R3a is OH, and R2b is OCH(CH₃)₂.
61. The compound of claim 52 wherein R3a is OH, and R2b is OCH₂CH₂CH₃.

62. The compound of claim 52 wherein R3a is OH, and R2b is OCH₂CH₂CH₂OCH₃.
63. The compound of claim 52 wherein R2b and R3a is OCH₃.
64. The compound of claim 52 wherein R2b and R3a is OCH₂CH₃.
65. The compound of claim 52 wherein R2b and R3a is OCH(CH₃)₂.
66. The compound of claim 52 wherein R2b and R3a is OCH₂CH₂CH₃.
67. The compound of claim 52 wherein R2b and R3a is OCH₂CH₂CH₂OCH₃.
68. A compound of claim 52 which is in the form of a pharmaceutically acceptable salt.